

**ALDRIDGE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

of

Health and Sanitary Condition

of the

Aldridge Urban District

For the Year ending 31st December, 1946

by

V. E. MILNE,

M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PELSALL :
LUNT & CO., PRINTERS, ETC.

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S T A F F

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

V. E. MILNE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Part Time Officer.

SANITARY INSPECTOR :

U. BOOCOCK, M.S.I.A.
Whole Time Officer.

V. F. PENN, A.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant.

To the

Aldridge Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting my Twenty-second Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Aldridge Urban District for the year ending December 31st, 1946.

I have been instructed by the Minister of Health to compile this Report on lines similar to the Annual Report for 1945.

Area.

The area of the District is 9,284 acres.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of resident population is 26,830, an increase of 2,000 from the previous estimate.

Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses according to rate books at the end of 1946, was 7,234.

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value was £120,612 at 31/12/46, and the sum represented by a 1d. Rate was £470.

Social Conditions.

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are : brickmaking, mining and agriculture, the district also being largely residential.

Vital Statistics.

These statistics relate to the net births and deaths, after correction for inward and outward transfers, as furnished by the Registrar-General.

<i>Live Births—</i>		Males.	Females.	Totals.
Legitimate	..	268	231	499
Illegitimate	..	13	11	24
		—	—	—
		281	242	523
		—	—	—

Of these 523 births, 351 were registered locally, the remaining 172 were transferred into the district from outside areas. Approximately 67% of the births were therefore registered locally. In recent years this figure has declined from 80%.

The Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 19.49. The Live Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales was 19.1.

Illegitimate Birth Rate This rate as calculated above is 0.89.

Still Birth Rate. 19 Still Births (males 8, females 11) were registered and the rate for 1,000 total (live and still) births is 35·09, or 0·70 per 1,000 of the population. The Still Birth Rate for the whole of England and Wales was 0·53.

Death Rate There were 205 deaths (males 113, females 92) and the Crude Death Rate is 7·63 per 1,000 of the population. The A.C.F. (Areal Comparability Factor) is under present circumstances to be discontinued on account of the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths and the variety and magnitude of local population movements. The Death Rate for the whole of England and Wales was 11·5 and for 148 smaller towns (resident populations of 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 census) it was 11·7.

Eighty-two deaths were transferred into the District and 47 were transferred out.

For the year 1945 the Live Birth Rate was 21·66 and the Still Birth Rate was 0·46.

Infantile Death Rate. (Under one year of age.) All infants per 1,000 live births : 55·44.

No Illegitimate Infant died.

The infantile death rate (all infants) for the whole of England and Wales was 43.

The infantile death rate (all infants) for the District was 49·08 for 1945.

No death resulted from Puerperal Sepsis or other maternal cause.

Cancer, etc. 34 deaths resulted from Cancer. No death from Measles, no death from Whooping Cough and 2 infants under 2 years of age died from Diarrhoea.

No death was due to Diphtheria, 5 from Influenza, and 7 resulted from Pneumonia.

Laboratory Facilities. The County Bacteriological Laboratory (Stafford) supplies excellent facilities for the examination of swabs, specimens of sputa, blood, etc.

During the year 10 reports on swabs from throats, ears and noses, etc., were received, all of which proved negative. 22 specimens of sputa were examined for tubercle bacilli, and 4 other specimens of blood, faeces, etc., were also examined and reported upon.

Ambulance. Apart from the fact that the Ambulance is showing signs of wear, an efficient service has been maintained throughout the year under the supervision of the Surveyor.

Mr. Bailey, the Ambulance Driver, deserves special mention for his prompt and cheerful services at all hours of the day and night.

Home Nursing. No occasion arose for engaging a Nurse for the home nursing of an infectious case.

Clinics. A Venereal Diseases Clinic for diagnostic—consultative and curative purposes at the Manor Hospital, Walsall, (for both males and females) is available for such cases.

Hospitals (Infectious and Otherwise).

No difficulty has arisen in obtaining isolation of Infectious cases in the Wissage Isolation Hospital, Lichfield. The Council is a Constituent Authority of the Mid.-Staffs. Joint Hospital Board and transport is now provided by the Board for the removal of infectious cases.

The Aldridge Urban District Authority continues to be a member of the South Staffs. Joint Small-Pox Hospital Board.

Other Hospitals chiefly used by the inhabitants of the area are : The General Hospital (voluntary), Walsall ; the Birmingham and Wolverhampton Voluntary Hospitals, and to a lesser degree, the Manor Hospital, Walsall.

The Hallam Hospital, West Bromwich ; the Cannock and Lichfield Hospitals are also used for Public Assistance and Maternity cases.

Mother and Child Welfare.

The Mother and Child Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics are conducted by Medical Officers under the County Authority.

Water.

The South Staffordshire Water Works Co. supplies the water for the area. Monthly reports are received from the Chemist and Bacteriologist of the Company, giving details of the Bacteriological, Physical and Chemical examinations of the water. All these reports have been satisfactory. The quality and quantity have been satisfactory and the water has no Plumbo-Solvent action. The supply is constant and direct from the Company's mains, except for a few isolated farms and cottages which are supplied from wells. Several of these isolated cases, supplied from wells, are under consideration by the Council under the provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Public Cleansing.

This service has continued to be economically and efficiently conducted under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector and is functioning satisfactorily.

Schools.

It was not considered necessary to close any School on account of an outbreak of infectious disease.

The Schools are under the control of the County Education Authority.

Housing.

The number of houses erected during the year :—

ERECTED BY LOCAL AUTHORITY.		OTHERWISE.	
Erected during 1946	In course of erection at end of 1946	Erected during 1946	In course of erection at end of 1946
Nil.	100	142	69
TOTALS :			
Erected during 1946			142
In course of erection at end of 1946			169

Full particulars regarding inspections made, remedying of defects, action taken under Statutory Powers, overcrowding under the Housing Act, 1936, etc., will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Sampling of Milk and Foods.

The County Sampling Officer has taken repeated samples of milk and foods and these are examined and reported upon by the County Bacteriologist and Analyst. (*See Sanitary Inspector's Report.*)

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Hospital Accommodation.

The alternative modified Scheme at Wissage, proposed by the Mid-Staffordshire Joint Hospital Board, is functioning satisfactorily, although for a limited period, owing to a Nursing shortage, there was some difficulty in obtaining isolation for some cases which would otherwise have been admitted.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Drs. Crawford and Taylor have immunised the very large majority of the school children during the year. The usual "two shot" method was employed and little or no "reaction" was recorded. The material used was "Alum Precipitate."

During 1946, 439 children under 15 years of age were primarily immunised at schools, Infant Welfare Centres and by private practitioners.

Of these 439 children, 385 were under 5 years of age, the remainder being between the ages of 5 and 14 inclusive.

Records of all cases immunised have to be kept locally, as statistics must be forwarded periodically to the Minister of Health, including a special Annual Report.

The percentage of children under 15 years of age immunised in the district at the end of 1946 is 66·83%. This percentage is conservative as it is based on the number of children actually recorded as having been immunised and does not take into account those who may have been immunised, but of whom there is no record.

Diphtheria Antitoxin and Anti-Scarlatinal Serum.

Antitoxin is supplied free of charge to all general practitioners for the treatment of Diphtheria occurring in the district. Anti-Scarlatinal serum is available for the treatment of Scarlet Fever and allied infections.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1946.

DISEASE.	TOTAL Cases notified after correction.	Cases admitted to Hospital before correction.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	2	8	—
Small-Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.. .. .	54	28	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—
Pneumonia	33	Cannot Report	7
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	Cannot Report	—
Dysentery	6	—	—
Measles	35	—	—
Whooping Cough	97	—	—

Maternity Accommodation.

Since my last Report, no further progress to my knowledge, has been made towards the establishment of a scheme for the institutional accommodation of Maternity cases. No doubt provision will be made for this service in the National Health Service Scheme.

Analysis of the Infectious Cases in Age Groups and in Wards is given below.

AGE GROUP.	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Measles	Whoop- ing Cough	AGE GROUP.	Pneu- monia	Ery- sipelas	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Puer- peral Pyrexia	Oph- thalmia Neon- atorum	Dys- entery	Typhoid & Para Typhoid Fever	Leth- argic Enceph- alitis	Infant- ile Paraly- sis
Under 1 year	—	—	4	8	0—5 years	6	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
1—3 years	1	—	8	30	5—15 years	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—5 years	6	—	11	33	15—45 years	13	4	—	1	—	3	—	1	—
5—10 years	22	1	9	21	45—65 years	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
10—15 years	8	1	1	3	65 and over	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
15—25 years	9	—	—	2										
25 and over	8	—	2	—										
WARD.					WARD.									
Aldridge	7	—	13	52	Aldridge	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Great Barr	11	1	18	33	Great Barr	18	3	—	—	—	6	—	1	—
Pelsall	28	—	1	3	Pelsall	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Rushall	6	1	2	7	Rushall	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Streetly	2	—	1	2	Streetly	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	54	2	35	97	TOTALS	33	4	1	1	2	6	—	1	—
Cases occurring in Institutions and <i>included</i> in the above figures	—	—	1	6		6	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—

It will be seen that 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified, giving a rate of 1·84 per 1,000 total Births (i.e. Live and Still Births).

The incidence rates per 1,000 of the population of the three principal infectious diseases are as follows : Pneumonia : 1·23. Diphtheria 0·07. Scarlet Fever 2·01.

Zymotic Death Rate.

One death resulted from Zymotic Diseases, viz.: Cerebro-Spinal Fever 1 death, giving a Zymotic Death Rate of 0·03 per 1,000 of the population.

Tuberculosis.

25 cases of Tuberculosis (*see Table below*) were entered on the Register, 19 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary.

Four cases occurred in Aldridge, 13 in Great Barr, 3 in Rushall 5 in Pelsall.

Eight of these 25 cases were notified from Institutions. Eight cases were brought to my notice otherwise than by formal notification on Form "A."

The total number of cases on the Register at the end of 1946 was 157, made up as follows :—

MALES.		FEMALES.	
Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
68	27	44	18

At the end of 1945 the number on the Register was 147. The notification of Tuberculosis during the year was moderately good. No action was necessary on account of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

Seven deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were registered, giving a Death Rate per 1,000 of the population of 0·26 and 0·07 respectively.

The ages at death, divided into sexes, are shown on the following Table :—

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5—10	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15—20	—	2	1	—	—	2	—	—
20—25	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	10	9	4	2	3	4	1	1

The above Table shows the cases of Tuberculosis entered in my Register and deaths from this disease, classified according to age and sex during the year 1946.

Fifteen cases were removed from the Register, on account of death, removal out of the district, or no recurrence of the disease for five years or three years from Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases respectively.

No action was necessary under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62. Three cases were notified on Form "C" and 8 on Form "D."

Mortuary.

The mortuary at Rushall continues to prove of great convenience both to the medical profession and the police.

Privies.

The number of privies remaining throughout the district is 26 ; the majority of these are in isolated situations, such as farms and farm cottages.

Vaccination.

During the year 15 contacts of Small Pox were visited and kept under observation.

Two of these contacts were re-vaccinated under the Public Health (Small-Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, as they had not been recently vaccinated.

General Remarks.

The health of the population during the year 1946 was good.

The Live Birth Rate dropped from 22·77 in 1944, and 21·66 in 1945, to 19·49 in 1946.

Apart from the Infantile Death Rate and the Still Birth Rate which are higher, the statistics compare more than favourably with those for all England and Wales.

It is very pleasing to note no Maternal death was due to Sepsis or other Maternal cause, and that the number of deaths from Tuberculosis was reduced from 18 to 9.

There are still a number of houses which are the subject of operative Demolition and Clearance Orders since the commencement of the War, and which are still occupied.

The occupants of these properties are living under most unsatisfactory conditions, and I strongly recommend the Council to consider a re-housing programme to meet this urgent need.

The Diphtheria Immunisation of children continues to be satisfactory. The percentage, 66·83, being a minimum figure.

Dr. Crawford and other School and Welfare Medical Officers merit grateful thanks for immunising the great majority of children against Diphtheria.

With the kind co-operation of Mrs. Patrick, Area Representative of the Central Council for Health Education, two courses of Lectures were held—one at Rushall and one at Aldridge. These Lectures were well attended and the audiences most appreciative.

Mr. Boocock, your Sanitary Inspector, as in years gone by, is a willing and conscientious worker, as are also his assistant and clerk.

I desire again to thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, and also all fellow Officers and Council Staff, for the consideration, courtesy and co-operation received in the course of my duties during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

V. E. MILNE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1946.

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller towns Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County
*RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION :—				
LIVE BIRTHS	19·1‡	22·2	21·3	21·5
STILL BIRTHS	0·53‡	0·67	0·59	0·54
DEATHS :—				
All Causes	11·5‡	12·7	11·7	12·7
Typhoid and Para- typhoid	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·02
Diphtheria	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Influenza	0·15	0·13	0·14	0·12
Small-pox	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Measles	0·00	0·01	0·00	0·01
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS :—				
Deaths under 1 year of age	43†	46	37	41
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4·4	6·1	2·8	4·2

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ Rates per 1,000 population.

Birth Rates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1946.

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller towns Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census	London Adminis- trative County
RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION :—				
NOTIFICATIONS :—				
Typhoid Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Paratyphoid Fever ..	0·02	0·02	0·01	0·01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	0·05	0·05	0·04	0·06
Scarlet Fever	1·38	1·51	1·33	1·42
Whooping Cough	2·28	2·48	2·05	2·22
Diphtheria	0·28	0·32	0·31	0·24
Erysipelas	0·22	0·25	0·22	0·27
Small-pox	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Measles	3·92	4·73	3·70	7·35
Pneumonia	0·89	1·02	0·74	0·75

RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (Live and Still) :—

(a) NOTIFICATIONS :—

Puerperal Fever	8·50	10·35	7·63	1·62
Puerperal Pyrexia				*9·68

(b) MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES :—

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections	Nos. 142—6 148—150 Other
0·13	0·06	0·18	1·06

ABORTION :—Mortality per million women aged 15—45 in England and Wales

No. 140 With Sepsis	No. 141 Without Sepsis
11	5

*Including Puerperal Fever.

Total Deaths.
Causes of Death in the Aldridge U.D. (Year 1946).

CAUSES OF DEATH.								M.	F.
ALL CAUSES								113	92
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever							—	—
2	Cerebro Spinal Fever							1	—
3	Scarlet Fever							—	—
4	Whooping Cough							—	—
5	Diphtheria							—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System							3	4
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis							1	1
8	Syphilitic Diseases							—	—
9	Influenza							3	2
10	Measles							—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis							1	—
12	Acute Infective Encephalitis							—	—
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M.) and Uterus (F.)							1	2
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.. .. .							1	2
15	Cancer of Breast							—	7
16	Cancer of all other sites							18	3
17	Diabetes							2	3
18	Intercranial Vascular Lesions							10	11
19	Heart Disease							15	14
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System							1	1
21	Bronchitis							5	5
22	Pneumonia							5	2
23	Other Respiratory Diseases							3	2
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum							2	—
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)							1	1
26	Appendicitis							—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases							1	4
28	Nephritis							2	—
29	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis							—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes							—	—
31	Premature Birth							1	3
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries and Infantile Diseases							9	6
33	Suicide							1	3
34	Road Traffic Accidents							1	1
35	Other Violent Causes							3	—
36	All Other Causes							22	15
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—								Male	Female
Total								16	13
Legitimate								16	13
Illegitimate								—	—
Live Births :—									
Total								281	242
Legitimate								268	231
Illegitimate								13	11
Still Births :—									
Total								8	11
Legitimate								8	11
Illegitimate								—	—
POPULATION								26,830	

SANITARY INSPECTORS' ANNUAL REPORT, 1946.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ALDRIDGE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Twentieth Annual Report for the year 1946.

I would respectfully express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their constant support, and to the Medical Officer of Health, Clerk to the Council, and Surveyor, for the help and co-operation received from them.

Water Supply.

The whole of the district is within the statutory area of the South Staffordshire Water Works Company, and the supply of water has been maintained in a satisfactory state of quality and quantity throughout the year.

A few cases exist where the only water supply obtainable is from wells, several of which are being considered under provisions of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Closet Accommodation.

The closet accommodation throughout the district is of the water carriage system, and in most cases water closets are provided for each individual house.

There still remain, however, some pail closets and privies in such areas where sewers are not available.

Number of privies remaining in the district	..	26
Number of pails remaining in the district	..	99

18 Pail Closets were converted to Water Closets during the year.

The following details are supplied by the courtesy of Mr. H. S. Onions, the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Whilst several schemes have been prepared or are in course of preparation for various areas of the District, no appreciable progress has been made during the year, due mainly to the degree of control which is still exercised by the various Government departments, and the generally difficult position as regards labour and materials. The new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the Streetly area has advanced, but has not, as yet, reached any degree of finality.

Rivers and Streams.

Routine clearing of main streams and watercourses has been carried out, and a close liaison with the Inspector and Chemist to the Tame Basin Joint Committee has been maintained. There has been no serious complaint of pollution of streams or watercourses during the year.

Number of Houses Erected during the Year.

(a)	By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(b)	By Other Authority—						
	Ministry of Works	..	..	..	..	..	} —50
	Temporary Bungalows		..	..	..	..	
	Home Office	..	..	..	..	..	} — 4
	Permanent Bungalows		..	..	..	..	
(c)	By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	87	
	(Unpaid Labour)		..	..	..	1	
						—	88

Number of Houses in Course of Erection at the End of the Year.

(a)	By Local Authority	..	..	..	..	..	100
(b)	By Other Local Authorities	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(c)	By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	..	..	69

Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

Rats and Mice destruction work has been carried out throughout the year in close co-operation with the Ministry of Food and under the powers delegated by the Staffordshire County Council, under the provisions of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, including :—

PREMISES INSPECTED.

Found Infested	..	..	..	..	..	86
Found not to be infested	..	..	..	..	..	129
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	215

Visits made.	Private Properties.	Council Premises.	Total.
Investigations	331	16	347
Treatments	364	78	442
Total	695	94	789

Report on the Collection and Disposal of Household Refuse and Salvage.

1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947.

I have the honour to submit herewith a Report on the work of collection and disposal of household refuse and of the salvage operations for the year 1946—47 in respect of the whole of the district.

Staff.

Labour has still proved very difficult and irregular throughout the year.

The full possible working time throughout the year for the staff employed is equivalent to 17·32 persons each week, whereas the actual attendance at work shows an average equivalent to 15·22 persons at work each week. It will therefore be seen that there has been throughout the year a deficiency of the staff available equivalent to 2·1 persons each week.

The absenteeism referred to above has occurred to the following extent :—

Working Hours lost by absenteeism :—

One man hours lost by workers					of possible
certified sick	2709·75	..	6·26%		working hours.
One man hours lost through causes					
other than certified sickness ..	2548·5	..	5·89%	..	
Total one man hours lost ..	5258·25	..	12·16%	..	

Sick Benefit.

The amount of wages paid as sick benefit to the staff whilst absent from work for reasons of certified sickness has shown a net cost to the Council of £114 15s. 1d.

Vehicles Employed.

- One Morris Commercial Lorry with dust cart body.
- One 8·9 cubic yard S. and D. freighter dust cart.
- One 10·5 cubic yard S. and D. freighter dust cart.
- One Morris Commercial Lorry used on salvage work.

Disposal of Refuse.

Tipping has been carried out at Aldridge Road, Streetly, and Heath End, Pelsall.

Progress of Work.

An endeavour has been made to make a collection of bins at as short intervals as possible. The heavy and exceptional snows of the winter considerably interfered with this effort. Before the fall of snow, the interval of collection was 8—9 days and effort is being made to resume and maintain collection at frequent regular intervals.

Pails have been collected weekly throughout the year.

Costings.

In calculating costings a “ depreciation charge ” based on a seven years life of the S. and D. freighter No. 3 vehicle, and on a five years life of the two Morris Commercial vehicles has been included.

No. 2 S. and D. freighter has been fully depreciated in previous years.

The collection costs are calculated on the figure £4,707 17s. 9d. which is the net collection cost after deducting revenue from salvage.

	£	s.	d.
Gross Collection Costs	5,741	13	5
Less Revenue <i>ex</i> Salvage	1,033	15	8
Net Collection Costs	£4,707	17	9

The following Table shows the cost of collection and disposal under the various headings and also makes comparison with similar costings for the years 1944—45 and 1945—46.

	ALL DISTRICT — YEAR :—		
	1944—45	1945—46	1946—47
Area “ in acres ”	9,284	9,284	9,284
Population	24,240	24,830	26,200
Weight of refuse collected per 1,000 population per day ..	20·25 cwts.	16·66 cwts.	16·16 cwts.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Net Cost collection per annum (including depreciation) ..	3,454 12 2	3,799 11 0	4,707 17 9
Disposal	200 1 0	105 18 5	178 15 7
Total	3,654 13 2	3,905 9 5	4,886 13 4
Expenditure per 1,000 population per annum :—			
Collection	142 10 2·8	153 0 0	179 13 9·6
Disposal	8 5 0·4	4 5 3	6 16 5·7
Total	150 15 3·2	157 5 3	186 10 3·3
Cost collection and disposal per occupied house per annum ..	9 7·8	10 10·8	12 8
Cost per ton per annum :—			
Collection	7 8·52	10 0·5	12 2·2
Disposal	5·35	3·36	5·5
Total	8 1·87	10 3·86	12 7·7
Rate in the Pound, collection and disposal	7·9d.	8·34d.	10·2d.
Average length of haul per load	7·7 miles	7·16 miles	8·97 miles
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cost per 1,000 houses per annum—			
Collection	482 17 9	531 0 0	634 1 0
Disposal	27 19 3	14 16 1	24 1 6
Total	510 17 0	545 16 1	658 2 6

Yearly Summary of Salvage Collected.

Year ending 31st March, 1947.

The Table below shows the quantities of various materials salvaged and sold during the year, together with the income resulting from the sales.

The previous year's sales amounted to £1,131 12s. 6d.

MATERIALS.					QUANTITIES.				VALUE.		
					T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	..	..	..	..	54	17	2	18	349	17	2
Cardboard	..	..	..	..	25	16	2	2	164	12	8
Newspaper	..	..	..	..		3	0	10	1	13	1
Periodicals	..	..	..	..			—			—	
Total	..	..	..	..	80	17	1	2	516	2	11
Scrap Iron	..	..	..	..	7	14	2	0	15	9	0
Brass	..	..	..	..		2	1	23	1	9	1
Aluminium	..	..	..	..		3	0	12	4	13	3
Lead	..	..	..	..		3	0	15	5	9	8
Copper	..	..	..	..		2	1	8	5	4	6
Bones	..	..	..	..	3	6	2	0	18	1	7
Textiles	..	..	..	..	5	15	2	14	112	7	10
Cullet—White	..	..	..	..	8	9	1	0	14	16	3
„ Black	..	..	..	..	12	6	0	0	6	17	6
Kitchen Waste	..	..	..	..	76	13	2	0	120	11	3
Rubber Tyres	..	..	..	..	1	16	0	0	1	16	0
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..			—		8	10	0
Rope and String	..	..	..	..		7	1	8	2	11	4
Bottles	..	..	..	..		29,310			148	16	11
Jars	..	..	..	..		12,332			50	18	7
Total	..	..	..	..					£1,033	15	8

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Inspections made re Housing Defects—

Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Public Health Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	168
Informal	..	..	..	..	..	..	398

Inspections made re Demolition—

Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of Visits re Overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Number of Visits re dairies and cowsheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	133
„ „ bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
„ „ factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
„ „ outworkers' premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ „ food shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	57
„ „ cases of infectious diseases (Inquiries)	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
„ „ disinfection of premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
„ „ disinfection of clothing	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ „ salvage work	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
„ „ animals	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

Number of visits re vermin	..	..	..	..	..	56
„	„	closet accommodation	..	..	..	35
„	„	ashpit—bins	..	..	..	1,933
„	„	drainage	..	..	..	195
„	„	tents, vans, and sheds	..	..	..	10
„	„	shops (Shops Act)	..	..	..	29
„	„	pail closets	..	..	..	174
„	„	accumulations	..	..	..	9
„	„	housing accommodation	..	..	..	21
„	„	ice cream premises	..	..	..	29
„	„	slaughter houses	..	..	..	10
„	„	cesspools	..	..	..	6
„	„	water supply	..	..	..	11
„	„	smoke	..	..	..	1
„	„	refuse—house	..	..	..	92
„	„	refuse—trade	..	..	..	2
„	„	miscellaneous	..	..	..	8
„	„	rat disinfection by Sanitary Inspector	..	..	..	14
„	„	unsound food	..	..	..	12

VISITS — Total

..

..

..

..

..

..

3,544

VISITS MADE—						
Primary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	1,974
Re-visits	..	..	..	..	..	1,570
						3,544

Notices dealt with during the Year.

	Notices Served.	Notices Completed.	Other Notices Superseded or Rescinded.
Informal	282	133	47
Statutory	249	238	9
Total	531	371	56

Factories, Etc.

Number of Inspections made—						
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	17
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	15
Outworkers' premises	..	..	..	..	..	2

Infectious Diseases.

Primary visits and inquiries	..	..	..	..	..	36
Disinfection of infected premises	..	..	..	..	..	6

Nature and Number of Structural Defects dealt with in Houses : together with Nuisances and Other Matters.

House roofs defective	65
Houses damp	14
Paving defective—interior	12
Floor boards	20
Drainage insufficient	23
„ choked	10
„ foul—defective—untrapped	12
Water Closets—defective flush	8
„ „ defective	9
„ „ pan broken	11
„ „ insufficient	1
Animals improperly kept	2
Sinks—foul bricks	2
Accumulations—offensive	1
Water supply—insufficient	4
Eaves gutters, etc.—defective, insufficient	26
Ditch—foul	1
Miscellaneous nuisances	29
Bedrooms—no permanent ventilation	2
Exterior brickwork—joints defective	28
„ „ defective	14
Fire Range defective	23
Dustbins defective	267
Ashpits eliminated	2
Pails defective	1
„ eliminated	16
Rooms insufficiently lighted	1
Vermin	11
Milk and Dairies Order	7
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	1
Factories, nuisances	3
Walls and/or ceiling plastering—defective	70
Wash boiler	14
Window frames and glazing—defective	50
Doors and frames—defective	25
Sash cords—defective	13

Inspection and Supervision of Food—Visits to Dairies, Shops, Etc.

Cowsheds and Dairies	133
Bakehouses	15
Food Shops	57

205

The following record of samples of milk and other foods, taken in the district, has been supplied by the coutresy of Dr. G. Ramage, County Medical Officer of Health, Staffordshire County Council.

Details of Samples taken in Aldridge Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, during 1946.

SAMPLE.	Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	25	—
„ Pasteurised	13	—
„ Sterilised	15	—
„ Tuberculin Tested	6	—
Pure Glycerine	2	—
Borax	1	—
Thyme and Parsley Stuffing	1	—
Tea	1	—
Cooking Fat	2	—
Malt Vinegar	1	—
Plum Jam, Full Fruit Standard	1	—
Strawberry and Gooseberry Jam, Full Fruit Standard	1	—
Cake Mixture	1	—
Macaroni	2	—
Soyhetti	2	—
Sugar	2	—
Cheese	1	—
Margarine	1	—
Butter	1	—
Lard	1	—
Cod Liver Oil	1	—
Bismuth and Magnesia	1	—
Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	1	—
B.V.T. Beef Extract	1	—
Cinnamon	1	—
Meat Paste	1	—
Dessicated Soup	1	—
Total	87	—

Milk Samples Collected in Aldridge Urban District for Bacteriological and Biological Examination during 1946.

DESIGNATION.	No. of Samples submitted.	Cleanliness		Phosphatase		Containing Tubercle Bacilli.
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Pass.	Fail.	
Tuberculin Tested ..	2 — 1*	2	—	—	—	—
T.T. (pasteurised) ..	25 — 25*	22	3	25	—	—
Accredited	4 — 2*	3	1	—	—	—
Pasteurised	31 — 31*	28	3	30	1	—
Sterilised	28 — 28*	28	—	28	—	—
Undesignated	40 — 40*	28	12	—	—	—

*No biological test.

Unsound Food.

The following articles of food were inspected and condemned as unfit for human consumption.

ARTICLE.	Tins.	Weight.	
		lbs.	ozs.
Pilchards	86	80	6
Tomato Paste	43	301	0
Beans	11	—	—
Beans with Meat and Vegetables	1	—	—
Tongue (canned)	1	7	0
Meat and Vegetable	5	5	0
Peas	6	—	—
Jam	—	17	0
Stewed Steak	5	—	—
Sausage Meat	5	7	8
Tomatoes (canned)	1	1	3
Herrings	—	10	12
Plums (canned)	—	2	0
Fruit Juice	1 bottle	—	—
Evaporated Milk	6	—	—
Prunes	—	25	0
Cheese	—	8	10
Bacon	—	7	8
Sultanas	—	60	0

Housing.

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts) 203

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose .. 203

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 146

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 146

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. 203

(5) Houses on which undertakings were given and completed Nil

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice :*

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 163

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	243
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	105
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	127
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
4.	<i>Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.</i>	
(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	14
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	22
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	138
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

U. BOOCOCK,

Sanitary Inspector.

